

★ news release

Walker 343-5634

Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall confirmed today that there have been sightings of the Maui Nukupuu (Hemignathus lucidus affinis), a Hawaiian bird last seen 71 years ago and considered extinct.

Three other species on the international endangered species list also were sighted: crested honeycreeper, Maui creeper, and the Maui parrotbill.

Other discoveries of rare wildlife in the area have led The Nature Conservancy to organize a project for acquisition of the key 9,600-acre Haleakala area. This includes the Valley of the Seven Sacred Pools, near Hana on Maui Island. Most land has been pledged as a gift if \$592,000 is raised to secure 500 acres near the sea.

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